



Summer 2006

Special points of interest:

- Governor's Carbon Challenge Recognition
 - Green Certifications for Lodging Businesses
 - Biennial Toxics & Haz. Waste Reports Deadline
 - Environmental Results Program Surveys
 - STEP-UP Companies Grow
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Innovation & Assistance



Governor's Carbon Challenge Participants are Recognized!



Governor's Carbon Challenge (GCC) participants were publicly recognized and awarded at the Global Warming Conference held May 10th at the University of Southern Maine. Maine has 54 participants signed with the GCC program, and agreed to make at least a 10% reduction in their carbon emissions by 2010. Some participants have committed upwards to a 50% reduction.

In 2003, Maine became the first state to enact Climate Change law, directing businesses and non-profit organizations to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Standards for reduction are first to surpass 1990 levels by 2010, and then 10% below 1990 levels by 2020, with an overall goal to decrease 75% to 80% from 2003 levels.

State law directs the Maine DEP to develop agreements with businesses and organizations to accomplish these goals.

DEP staff are providing technical assistance to each participant in their efforts to make carbon emissions reductions. DEP staff are providing assistance towards assessing baseline data, help with conducting Level I Energy Audits, and recommendations on carbon reduction implementation.

The GCC is growing in numbers, and most recently includes homeowners. The Office of Innovation & Assistance has developed specific resources and reporting forms to assist individuals with making reductions and tracking their efforts. In accordance with the Kyoto protocol, goals for individuals and homeowners have been set at 1500 pounds.

Please contact Julie M. Churchill at 287-7881 to be part of this leadership program! (See page two for a list of participating businesses and organizations.)

Biennial Reporting for Toxics and Hazardous Waste Reduction

It's a reporting year for businesses and organizations subject to the Toxics and Hazardous Waste Reduction Law (38 MRSA Sections 2301-2313). Reports must be prepared and submitted to the Maine DEP and municipality by July 1, 2006. Previous report filers have already received electronic instruction and spreadsheet forms in May.

Please notice there are some important changes to this year's reporting instructions in the area of base year and base year amounts. Please follow

the 2006 reporting instructions carefully, especially for the Toxics Release category.

Take advantage of the ease of our electronic reporting/filing process and **submit your report by July 1, 2006**. The program web site www.maine.gov/dep/oia/thwrp includes report forms, instructions and other helpful information. If you have questions and would like assistance, please contact Jim Rodrigue at 207-287-8867.

Governor's Carbon Challenge Participants in 2006



*To save money and reduce
emissions go to the Maine
Public Utilities
Commission's (PUC)
Efficiency Maine program
web site at
efficiencyMAINE.com or
1-866-376-2463.*

Accent Dry Cleaners	Maple Hill Farm B&B
American Lung Association, Maine	National Semiconductor
Augusta Water & Sanitary District	Natural Resource Council of Maine
Baldwin Apple Ladders	NorDx
Bowdoin College	Oakhurst Dairy
Chewonki Foundation	Poland Spring Water
City of Hallowell	Portland Press Herald
City of Portland	Pratt and Whitney
City of Saco	Reny's
Coastal Enterprises, Inc.	Safe Handling, Inc. (Auburn)
Colby College	Seacoast Property Management
College of the Atlantic	State of Maine
Commercial Paving	Swett Street
Eastern Maine Medical Center	Town of Camden
Fairfield Semiconductor	University of Maine at Orono
Gardiner POTW	University of New England
Hannaford (20 stores)	University of Southern Maine
Homeowners GCC	Washboard Laundry
Interface Fabrics	Waste Management Inc.
Irving Convenience Stores	West Gardiner Beef
Lamey-Wellehan Shoes	Winthrop Congregational Church
Laughing Stock Farm	Wright-Ryan Construction
Lee Toyota	York Hospital
Lee Chevy	ZF Lemforder
Lyman Morse Boatbuilders	
Maine Energy Investment Corporation	Maine DEP staff are currently conducting Carbon Challenge audits. For more informa- tion contact Julie Churchill at 287-7881 or visit our web site at www.maine.gov/dep/oc/carbon .
Maine General Health	
Maine State Housing Authority	

DEP's Green Lodging Initiative Takes Off!

Currently 22 lodging properties are certified and the number is growing quickly! Maine DEP's Green Lodging Initiative was also recently featured on the cover of the Business Section of the Portland Press Herald (April 23) and Channel 8 News. See link <http://business.maintoday.com/news/060423greeninn.shtml>.

The Initiative provides lodging establishments the opportunity to certify they are taking extra steps to being good stewards and reducing their environmental impact and conserving energy. Businesses can achieve certification through self-audits of environmental practices including their use of appropriate cleaning products, water conservation, waste minimization, recycling and energy use. A point system allows participants to tally their score for consideration. Two-year certification periods follow verification of scores of 100 points or more. Becoming certified gives innkeepers the ability to promote their status and display the "Environmental Leader" logo.

A full-day workshop on eco-tourism and strategies for reducing environmental impact was sponsored by the Maine Innkeepers Association on April 25th at the Hilton Garden in Freeport. Peter Cooke, DEP's Pollution Prevention Manager, presented to over 55 attendees, all of which were lodging property owners or managers. The audience provided excellent feedback and enthusiasm for reducing their environmental impacts and interest in the Green Lodging program.

The Initiative highlights Maine's green lodging establishments to tourists and other travelers looking to choose their destinations in Maine. For more information please contact Peter Cooke at 791-8101.



Environmental Results Focus on Southern Maine Autobody Businesses

The Environmental Results Program of the Office of Innovation and Assistance is conducting surveys of autobody businesses in southern Maine in May and June. This survey work will determine effectiveness of earlier education and assistance provided to help shops reach compliance. The program has identified 104 autobody businesses in this air quality non-attainment zone including York, Sagadahoc, and Cumberland counties. The survey will encompass 59 randomly selected shops.

A workshop was held in December to inform shops of current environmental regulations, and reviewed some of the reoccurring problems found during the earlier surveys. Subsequently, in March 2006, a multi-media, plain language workbook was developed that covered all current environmental regulations applying to autobody shops. A self-certification checklist was also sent out to provide self-certification opportunities for businesses that found themselves in compliance with all environmental regulations.

Last September and October, staff completed baseline pollution prevention surveys at 59 randomly selected autobody shops. The surveys included information about hazardous waste handling, air quality and water quality matters. Staff also did walk-throughs of shops to see operations. Reoccurring problems were found.

Later this year, the program will collect and analyze the pollution prevention surveys and self-certifications in preparation for final report. Please contact Sara Lippert at 207-287-4432 or sara.m.lippert@maine.gov for further information.

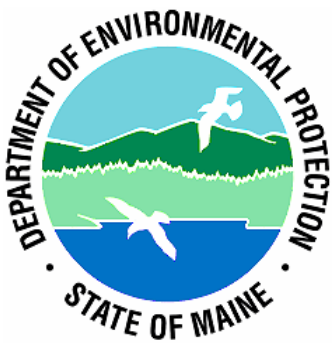


*For a **free** environmental compliance audit of your business or questions, contact our Small Business Assistance Program at tel. 1-800-789-9802 or email roy.t.krout@maine.gov*



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17 Station
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207-287-8550
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Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5



Contact Jim Rodrigue at
207-287-8867 or
james.n.rodrigue@maine.gov
for free assistance with your
Toxics & Hazardous Waste
Program questions.

Check our web site:
www.maine.gov/dep/oia

Maine STEP-UP Program Companies Grow

Wright-Ryan Construction, Lyman Morse Boat Building, and Pratt & Whitney are the most recent companies to join Maine's STEP-UP Program, highlighting their tracks toward more sustainable work practices and performance. These three companies, and ten others already in the program, are demonstrating their commitment to new ways of achieving business and environmental goals.

The Maine Smart Tracks for Exceptional Performers and Upward Performers program, offers recognition and other incentives to businesses interested in implementing sustainable practices. The program is designed to encourage companies to strive to achieve sustainability goals set forth through specific tracks. See the web site: www.maine.gov/dep/oc/stepup.

As Paul Hawken and Amory and L. Hunter Lovins explain in their book, *Natural Capitalism: Creating the Next Industrial Revolution*: "The next Industrial Revolution, like the first

one, will be a response to changing patterns of scarcity. It will create upheaval, but more importantly, it will create opportunities."

For more information please contact the Office of Innovation & Assistance, Julie Churchill at 287-7881 or julie.m.churchill@maine.gov.

Need Assistance?

Maine DEP's Office of Innovation & Assistance provides free regulatory compliance information and assistance for your small business. Through a special policy administered by the Office, the Small Business Compliance Incentives Policy, DEP staff can also help your business get into compliance under a protective schedule, and get access to Pollution Prevention assistance too.

For more information contact the Office at 800-789-9802 or (207)-287-8550. Or email roy.t.krout@maine.gov.